R-33

COMMUNIST CAMPAIGN TO CONTROL YOUTH

The following is an excerpt from a speech made by J. Edgar Hoover before the 7th. National Convention Catholic Youth Organization in New York City on 11/16/63:

"Today the communists are engaged in an intensive campaign to control the minds and win the allegiance of American youth. Toward this end, a National Youth Commission has been established within the Communist Party, USA; special publications have been issued; front groups have been organized; and an ambitious speech program has been directed against our colleges and universities.

"During the past two years, communist spokesmen have appeared on nearly 100 campuses from coast to coast. Their purpose: To create confusion, raise questions and spread doubt among our young people concerning the American way of life.

"If their constitutional right to free speech allows them to use the public school forum to promote the secular creed of Marxism - Leninism which openly and avowedly denies God, does their constitutional freedom of religion also prohibit the rest of us from using the same public school forum to express our faith that God does exist?

"It is indeed ironic that Communist Party speakers - whose minds and thoughts and actions are in no manner free - should demand the opportunity to parrot the Moscow line to young Americans under the guise of academic freedom!

"Academic freedom is not an instrument for the perpetuation of conspiratorial ideologies. Nor is it an agent of self-destriction - a freedom to destroy freedom. As a free-flowing channel of truth and knowledge, academic freedom is not obligated to carry along the silted tributaries of lies and distortions of known communists."

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REAFFIRMATION OF REVERENCE TO GOD IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Florida State Elks Association, Inc., 37,579 strong, in Convention assembled at Miami Beach, Florida, May 23, 1964, adopted the following resolution:

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America is conceived on man's belief in Almighty God; and

WHEREAS, the use of the Lord's Prayer in the classrooms of our public school system has been declared unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, the principles of Elkdom instill within each of us the need to continue our observances of His love and power;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Florida State Elks Association, Inc., in convention assembled, at Miami Beach, Florida, urges Congress to reaffirm our reverence to God in our public schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this session and that a copy be furnished the Florida Congressional Delegation in Washington, D.C.

Adopted this 23rd day of May, A.D. 1964.

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One Qualification for Membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, as set forth in its By-laws, is that an applicant be a believer in God. The above resolution, therefore, is in keeping with our beliefs.